

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of | : | Customer Number: 20277 |
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| Ken TAKACHI | : | Confirmation Number: 4143 |
| | : | |
| Application No.: 10/781,618 | : | Group Art Unit: 3656 |
| | : | |
| Filed: February 20, 2004 | : | Examiner: JOYCE, William C. |
| | : | |
| For: MECHANICAL LOCKING MECHANISM AND INJECTOR HEAD EMPLOYING THE MECHANISM | : | |

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop Restriction
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed prior to examination on the merits of the present application, in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed October 16, 2008. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Response to Restriction Requirement begins on page 7 of this paper.